

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS**

**Call to Order:** Chair Llew Jones, on March 30, 2017 at 8:11 AM, in Room 317 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Sen. Llew Jones, Chair (R)  
Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)  
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)  
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)  
Sen. David Howard (R)  
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)  
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)  
Sen. Mike Lang (R)  
Sen. Mary McNally (D)  
Sen. Albert Olszewski (R)  
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)  
Sen. Jon C. Sesso (D)  
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)  
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)

##### **Members Excused:**

Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)  
Sen. Cary Smith (R)  
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)

##### **Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary  
Julie Johnson, Legislative Branch  
Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 37, 3/28/2017; HB 44, 3/28/2017; HB 217, 3/28/2017; HB 372, 3/28/2017; HB 565, 3/28/2017

Executive Action: HB 37 Be Concurred In; HB 217 Be Concurred In

**HEARING ON HB 565**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:03 Rep. Rob Cook (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 565, Revise entitlement share laws.

[EXHIBIT\(fcs66a01\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:02:07 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties

00:04:39 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:05:08 Ed Caplis, Montana Department of Revenue

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:05:30 Sen. Moore

00:05:46 Rep. Cook

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:06:08 Rep. Cook

**HEARING ON HB 37**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:06:49 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HB 37, Revise MT Indian language preservation program.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:08:18 Jason Smith, Office of Indian Affairs, Office of the Governor

00:08:58 Casey Lozar, Montana Department of Commerce

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:10:29 Sen. Olszewski

00:11:02 Rep. Windy Boy

00:12:19 Sen. Olszewski

00:12:44 Sen. Windy Boy

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:13:13 Rep. Windy Boy

**HEARING ON HB 44**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:14:50 Rep. Jeff Essmann (R), HD 54, opened the hearing on HB 44, Generally revise laws related to district court judge numbers.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:16:11 Beth McLaughlin, court administrator, Montana Supreme Court

00:17:27 Rep. Randy Brodehl, HD 9

00:18:01 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:18:47 Sen. Keenan

00:19:02 Rep. Essmann

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:19:34 Rep. Essmann

**HEARING ON HB 217**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:20:11 Rep. Randy Brodehl (R), HD 9, opened the hearing on HB 217, Revise replacement schedule for regular license plates.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:21:30 Sarah Garcia, Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Justice

00:22:52 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:23:22 Sen. Sesso  
00:23:52 Rep. Brodehl  
00:24:46 Sen. Sesso  
00:25:00 Rep. Brodehl

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:25:24 Rep. Brodehl

**HEARING ON HB 372**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:25:54 Rep. Alan Doane (R), HD 36, opened the hearing on HB 372, Revise leave laws affecting certain community college staff.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:27:06 Kathleen Zander, Dawson Community College (DCC)  
00:30:10 Sen. Ankney joined the meeting.  
00:32:44 Ed Bartlett, Dawson, Miles and Flathead Community Colleges  
[EXHIBIT\(fcs66a02\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:34:27 Sen. Wolken  
00:35:08 Ms. Zander, DCC  
00:35:48 Sen. Wolken  
00:36:05 Ms. Zander  
00:36:48 Sen. Wolken  
00:36:57 Julie Johnson, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
00:37:03 Sen. Wolken  
00:37:13 Ms. Johnson, LSD  
00:37:29 Sen. Moore  
00:37:55 Ms. Zander  
00:38:37 Chair Jones  
00:39:15 Ms. Zander  
00:40:52 Chair Jones  
00:41:19 Ms. Zander  
00:41:28 Sen. McNally  
00:41:46 Ms. Zander  
00:42:19 Sen. Sesso  
00:43:37 Chair Jones  
00:44:31 Sen. Moore

00:44:55 Ms. Zander  
 00:45:43 Sen. Moore  
 00:45:50 Sen. Howard  
 00:46:19 Ms. Zander

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:47:04 Rep. Doane  
 00:47:26 Sen. Moore  
 00:47:29 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division  
 00:48:17 Recess  
 Sen. Caferro and Sen. Welborn left the meeting.  
 00:54:11 Reconvene  
 00:54:51 Chair Jones  
 00:55:23 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 37**

00:55:35 **Motion:** Sen. Moore moved that **HB 37 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

00:55:52 Ms. Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division, LFD  
 00:56:01 Sen. Moore  
 00:56:18 Chair Jones  
 00:56:51 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-1 by voice vote with Sen. Keenan voting no. Sen. Caferro, Sen. Osmundson, Sen. C. Smith, Sen. Welborn and Sen. Whitford were excused. Sen. Whitford will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 217**

00:57:09 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Moore moved that **HB 217 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried 13-0 by voice vote. Sen. Caferro, Sen. Osmundson, Sen. C. Smith, Sen. Welborn and Sen. Whitford were excused. Sen. Gauthier will carry the bill.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 9:09 AM

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Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([fcs66aad.pdf](#))